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GENERAL

1. West to approach Vishinsky on Austrian treaty--The Department of State has instructed US Ambassador Kirk in Moscow to join with the French and British Ambassadors in making an approach as soon as possible to Soviet Foreign Minister Vishinsky on the question of the Austrian treaty. The Department indicates that the approach should consist of an oral demarche and an aide-memoire, designed to obtain either a flat Soviet refusal to continue negotiations or assurances that the Austrian treaty may be concluded on the basis of existing agreements without the creation of further obstacles by the Soviet representative. The Department recommends that the Ambassadors: (a) remind Vishinsky of his recent promise in New York that no further difficulties would be encountered on the treaty if the Soviet position on the German assets were accepted; (b) avoid detailed discussion of specific articles of the treaty; and (c) avoid giving the impression that the Western Powers are overly eager for a treaty.

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FAR EAST

2. INDOCHINA: Thai views on Bao Dai Government--US Embassy Bangkok has been informed by the Thai Foreign Minister that his government, while fully aware of the gravity of the Indochina situation, is not prepared to extend recognition to Bao Dai until France actually grants independence to Vietnam and Bao Dai receives a large measure of popular support. The Thai Foreign Minister added that in the absence of these developments, the Thai Government will continue to regard Bao Dai as "a French puppet" who will eventually fail. In conclusion, the Thai Foreign Minister expressed the opinion that: (a) there is no reason why an accord similar to the Netherlands agreement in Indonesia cannot be reached with Ho Chi Minh (Communist leader opposing Bao Dai) and other Vietnamese leaders; and (b) the problem in Indochina is one which the UN might well endeavor to solve.

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State Dept. review completed

Document No. 12
 NO CHANGE in Class. ☐
☐ DECLASSIFIED
 CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S (C)
 DDA Memo, 4 APR 77
 Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763
 Date: 16 MAR 1978 By:

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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